OIPE C.

Atty. Docket No. 8009-1010 PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kenji KATAOKA

Confirmation No. 4404

Serial No. 09/840,142

GROUP 2836

Filed April 24, 2001

Examiner Zeev Kitov

ELECTROSTATIC BREAKDOWN PREVENTION APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

## REQUEST FOR STATUS AND FOR CONSIDERATION OF IDS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 12, 2004

Sir:

Please indicate the status of this application.

The Notice of Allowance issued on April 10, 2003 and on May 22, 2003 applicant filed an IDS with the necessary statement and fee. The issue fee was paid on July 9, 2003. On July 29, 2003, Examiner Kitov issued a communication indicating that the IDS would not be considered. On August 8, 2003, after explaining the impropriety of the refusal to Examiner Kitov in a telephone call, applicant filed a formal Request for Reconsideration of the refusal to consider the IDS. The Request explains why the refusal to consider the IDS was improper. On September 9, 2003, Examiner Kitov indicated in a telephone call that he did not yet have the file. To date, no response has been received to the Request for Reconsideration of the refusal to consider the IDS.

## Kenji KATAOKA S.N. 09/840,142

On November 12, 2003, applicant's representative called Examiner Kitov and his supervisor, SPE Sircus. In a telephone message on November 14, 2003, Examiner Kitov stated that he had the file and that he would consider the IDS. To date, nothing has been received indicating that the IDS has been considered.

The PAIR system does not indicate that the status of the application has changed since it was received into "Pubs" on September 16, 2003. If Examiner Kitov has done what he said he would do, then the indication in the PAIR system is not correct.

It is (again) respectfully requested that the IDS be considered and that the application proceed to issue if the consideration of the IDS does not reveal anything affecting patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 12, 2004